

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
23 December 2004 (23.12.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/111274 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C12Q 1/70**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2004/002553

(22) International Filing Date: 8 March 2004 (08.03.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
03101676.9 10 June 2003 (10.06.2003) EP

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

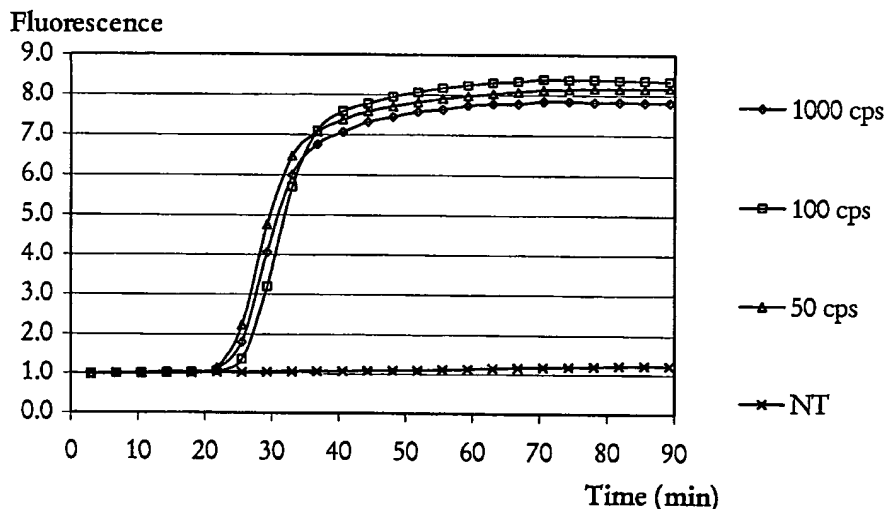
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), Euro-
pean (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR,
GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES THAT CAN BE USED AS PRIMERS AND PROBES IN THE AMPLIFICATION AND DETECTION OF SARS CORONAVIRUS



(57) Abstract: The present invention is related to nucleic acid sequences that can be used in the field of virus diagnostics, more specifically the diagnosis of infections with a novel human coronavirus causing Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). With the present invention nucleotide sequences are provided that can be used as primers and probes in the amplification and detection of SARS nucleic acid. The oligonucleotide sequences provided with the present invention are located in the replicase gene, the nucleocapsid gene and the 3' end non-coding region of the SARS Coronavirus genome. It has been found that, by using the sequences of the present invention in methods for the amplification and detection of nucleic acid a sensitive and specific detection of SARS Coronavirus can be obtained. The oligonucleotide sequences according to the present invention are especially useful in methods for the amplification of nucleic acid.

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